

24 AUG 1980

18 August 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of George Bush, 15 August 1980

1. At the request of Ambassador Bush, a group of CIA officers briefed him in preparation for his trip to China on 15 August from 0845 to 1100. The briefing took place in Mr. Bush's mother's summer house in Kennebunkport, Maine.

2. The briefing team consisted of Ambassador Holdridge, NIO/EA, Rae Huffstutler, D/OSR, [redacted] of OSR, and the undersigned. Present beside Mr. Bush were Richard Allen, James Lilley and Ray Cline. I had been authorized to clear Allen and Lilley and had them sign oaths. Cline's presence was a surprise. I was assured, however, that his clearances -- from DIA -- were current. Since I was aware that he is teaching at the Defense Intelligence School, I believe this to be true and therefore chose not to make an issue of the matter.

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3. The briefing covered military and strategic subjects only, as we had been asked, [redacted] Copies of the briefing notes used are attached, along with memoranda from the briefers.

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4. The briefing went very well. The atmosphere was informal and friendly. There were many questions, none of which could not be answered. The only question that pushed the rules was whether the USG was involved in the Sino-Thai support to Pol Pot, a logical query for one about to talk to senior Chinese officials. We answered in the negative and there was no follow-up.

5. Mr. Allen told me he did not anticipate any further requests for briefings before the election. I told him there was always the possibility that Gov. Reagan should be warned of some major event impending, hypothetically another Afghanistan. If so, I would take the

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initiative to get clearance from the Administration to get in touch with him. He recognized this possibility and thanked me. In general, he gave an impression of being favorably disposed to the Agency.

6. No press were in evidence and there has been to my knowledge no press coverage.

Richard Lehman  
Chairman  
National Intelligence Council

Attachments

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